

REMARKS

I. Status Of The Claims

Claims 1-28 are pending in this Application.

Claims 1-12, 15-22, 25, and 26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Brachman (U.S. Patent No. 6,704,576) in view of Zhang (U.S. Patent No. 6,741,575).

Claims 13 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Brachman and Zhang in view of Stanforth (U.S. Pub. No. 2002/0058502).

Claims 23, 24, 27, and 28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Brachman and Zhang in view of Khan (U.S. Pub. No. 2002/0143951).

With this response, claims 1, 2, 5-8, 11 and 12 are amended. No new matter has been added.

Claims 1-12 are independent.

II. Rejection of Independent Claims 3, 4, 9, and 10 Under 35 U.S.C. 103(a)

The Office Action rejects independent claims 3, 4, 9, and 10 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Brachman in view of Zhang. However, Applicants respectfully submit that Brachman and Zhang, taken individually or in combination, fail, for example, to disclose, teach, or suggest:

“... selecting from among available cellular distributions for said reception group, wherein the available cellular distributions comprise one or more different possibilities for at least one member of the reception group establishing relationship with one or more first cells and severing relationship with one or more second cells ...”

as set forth in each of claims 3, 4, 9, and 10 (emphasis added).

The Office Action apparently equates “at least one member of the reception group establishing relationship with one or more first cells and severing relationship with one or more second cells” of the claims with the “roaming” of Zhang.

However, even if such equation is taken to be true for the sake for argument, Brachman and Zhang, taken individually or in combination, would still fail, for instance, to disclose, teach, or suggest selecting from among different possibilities for roaming.

In view of at least the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 3, 4, 9, and 10, as well as those claims that depend therefrom, are in condition for allowance.

III. Amendment of Independent Claims 1, 2, 5-8, 11 and 12

With this response claims 1, 2, 5-8, 11 and 12 are amended. No new matter has been added.

Applicants respectfully submit that the cited references, taken individually or in combination, fail, for example, to disclose, teach, or suggest:

“... upon a change in the cellular distribution of the reception group, deciding whether a subset of said reception group should receive said service via a unicast link or via a multicast link, wherein said deciding takes into account relationship information received from one or more members of the reception group, wherein the relationship information comprises indication of one or more cells with which the one or more members are capable of communicating ...”

as set forth in each of claims 1, 5, 7, and 11 as amended herewith (emphasis added).

As another example, Applicants respectfully submit that the cited references, taken individually or in combination, fail to disclose teach, or suggest:

“... upon a change in the composition of the reception group, deciding whether a subset of said reception group should

receive said service via a unicast link or via a multicast link,
wherein said deciding takes into account relationship
information received from one or more members of the
reception group, wherein the relationship information
comprises indication of one or more cells with which the one
or more members are capable of communicating ...”

as set forth in each of claims 2, 6, 8, and 12 as amended herewith (emphasis added).

In view of at least the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1, 2, 5-8, 11 and 12, as well as those claims that depend therefrom, are in condition for allowance.

IV. Dependent Claims

Applicants do not believe it is necessary at this time to further address the rejections of the dependent claims as Applicants believe that the foregoing places the independent claims in condition for allowance. Applicants, however, reserve the right to further address those rejections in the future should such a response be deemed necessary and appropriate

(Continued on next page)

V. Conclusion

Applicants respectfully submit that this Application is in condition for allowance for which action is earnestly solicited.

If a telephone conference would facilitate prosecution of this Application in any way, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the number provided.

VI. Authorization

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required for this response, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-4500, Order No. 4208-4057.

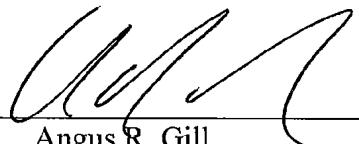
Furthermore, in the event that an extension of time is required, the Commissioner is requested to grant a petition for that extension of time which is required to make this response timely and is hereby authorized to charge any fee for such an extension of time or credit any overpayment for an extension of time to the above-noted Deposit Account and Order No.

Respectfully submitted,

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By:



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